



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.2413 | FAX (517) 373.5144

www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/allen/

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Contact: Jamie Callahan
1-866-525-5637

Sen. Allen announces \$400,000 for Petoskey breakwater repairs vetoed by governor

LANSING – Because of a veto by Gov. Jennifer Granholm, \$400,000 in funding for repairs to the Petoskey breakwater set aside in the Michigan Department of Natural Resources budget has been eliminated, said Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City

“I don’t understand why the governor would take away a possible solution to the problem, especially since there would be no net cost to the state,” Allen said.

The breakwater is under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the state funds were contingent upon the federal government agreeing to repay the state for this expenditure.

Allen had successfully offered an amendment to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources budget this spring to provide the funding.

Funds for the temporary repairs would have come from the Michigan State Waterways Fund, which is overseen by the DNR.

The breakwater was damaged during a windstorm in March when a 50-foot expanse of concrete was separated from the rest of the structure.

Currently, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lacks the funds necessary to make the repairs.

“I see absolutely no logic in why the governor vetoed this funding,” Allen said. “I’m stunned to say the least.”

The budget was unanimously approved by the Senate.

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